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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**Declaration  
Submitted  
With Initial  
Filing

OR

Declaration  
Submitted after Initial  
Filing (surcharge  
(37 CFR 1.16 (e))  
required)

Attorney Docket Number

2003-0864.02

First Named Inventor

Hrishikesh Pramod Gogate

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number

Filing Date

March 25, 2004

Art Unit

Examiner Name

**I hereby declare that:**

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name.

I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Fuser Nip Release Mechanism

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which



is attached hereto

OR



was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				Yes	No
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application**Direct all correspondence to: ☒ Customer Number: 21972 OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

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Fax

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name  
(first and middle [if any])

Hrishikesh Pramod

Family Name  
or Surname

Gogate

Inventor's  
Signature

Date

3/25/04

Residence: City

Lexington

State

KY

Country

Citizenship

India

Mailing Address

2808 Majestic View Walk

City

Lexington

State

KY

ZIP

40509

Country

U.S. A.

**NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name  
(first and middle [if any])

Harald

Family Name  
or Surname

Portig

Inventor's  
Signature

Date

3/25/04

Residence: City

Versailles

State

KY

Country

Citizenship

U.S.

Mailing Address

400 Tincher Drive

City

Versailles

State

KY

ZIP

40383

Country

U.S.A.

☐ Additional inventors or a legal representative are being named on the \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR attached hereto.

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**POWER OF ATTORNEY  
and  
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS  
INDICATION FORM**

Application Number	
Filing Date	March 25, 2004
First Named Inventor	Hrishikesh Pramod Gogate
Title	Fuser Nip Release Mechanism
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2003-0864.02

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners associated with the Customer Number:

21972

OR

☐ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

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OR

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☐ Firm or Individual Name

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Address

City

State

Zip

Country

Telephone

Fax

I am the:

☒ Applicant/Inventor.☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**Name Harald PortigSignature [Signature]Date March 25, 2004Telephone (859) 232-2456

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

☒ \*Total of 2 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**Name Hrishikesh Pramod GogateSignature Date March 25, 2004

Telephone

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